

II Primary & Secondary Education K-12

Strategy I: Utah Public Schools will assure academic success of American Indian/Alaska Native students without compromising their cultural heritage.

Goal: To assure academic success in public education by increasing graduation rates and decreasing dropout rates of American Indian/Alaska Native students in the state of Utah.

Objective I: To provide American Indian/Alaska Native sovereignty and cultural competency training for district and school administrators, teachers, State Board of Education, and local and state government leaders by June 30, 2007.

Action Steps:

- The Native American Legislative Liaison Committee shall draft and secure passage of a bill to provide funding for ongoing American Indian/Alaska Native sovereignty and cultural competency training.
- Recommend to the Utah State Office of Education programmatic, operational and administrative needs for fiscal support for the American Indian/Alaska Native sovereignty and cultural competency training.
- Identify and develop American Indian/Alaska Native sovereignty and cultural competency training courses and materials.
- Establish a timetable and locations for American Indian/Alaska Native sovereignty and cultural competency trainings.
- Recruit, hire and retain American Indian/Alaska Native trainers to deliver sovereignty training.
- Recruit, hire and retain American Indian/Alaska Native trainers to deliver cultural competency training.
- Recruit, hire and retain American Indian/Alaska Native trainers to deliver cultural sensitivity training.
- Establish working partnerships between Utah's American Indian/Alaska Native Nations and school districts in order to open the lines of communication to promote the best interests of American Indian/Alaska Native youth.
- Train Title VII Coordinators, parent committees and parents to advocate for American Indian/Alaska Native sovereignty and cultural competency training.
- Require one hundred percent of district and school administrators, teachers, Utah State Office of Education personnel, and local and state government leaders to complete the American Indian/Alaska Native sovereignty and cultural competency training.

Objective II: Increase the number of American Indian/Alaska Native teachers, counselors and administrators in elementary and secondary education.

Action Steps:

- Utah public schools shall recruit, hire and retain American Indian/Alaska Native teachers, counselors and administrators in elementary and secondary education.
- The recruitment and hiring of American Indian/Alaska Native educators shall be included in the expenditures of existing funds.
- Secure additional legislative funding for the professional development of American Indian/Alaska Native para-professionals.
- Allocate adequate funding for career development of American Indian/Alaska Native para-professionals.
- Hire teachers and administrators who have an American Indian/Alaska Native Endorsement, and where appropriate, give priority to candidates who have had tribal on-site experience.

Objective III: When a school has ten or more American Indian/Alaska Native students, from one or more of Utah's five indigenous nations, across all grade levels, the language and culture of that nation shall be taught at that school.

Action Steps:

- Each LEA shall accurately account for and report tribal affiliation for American Indian/Alaska Native youth. This shall not be the responsibility of Indian Education Coordinators.
- Share the importance of declaring tribal affiliation to schools with parents, families and guardians of American Indian/Alaska Native students.
- Cultural competency trainers shall provide inservice training to school personnel as to the sensitive nature of acquiring tribal identity and the necessity of not misusing or abusing the data.
- Each LEA shall be required to desegregate the American Indian/Alaska Native student enrollment data and report it to the Office of Indian Education at the Utah State Office of Education.

Objective IV: Increase parents', families' and guardians' involvement in their children's education.

Objective V: The Indian Education Specialist position and support staff are to be permanently funded at current levels with annual cost of living increases.

Action Steps:

- The Utah State Office of Education, in collaboration with the Indian Education Specialist, shall create an administrative and programmatic operating budget for Indian Education.
- The American Indian/Alaska Native Education State Plan Advisory Committee shall initiate support from Tribal Leaders, and agencies and organizations for the Indian Education budget.
- The Native American Legislative Liaison Committee shall draft a bill to provide for on-going (permanent) programmatic funding for Indian Education.
- The American Indian/Alaska Native Education State Plan Advisory Committee shall encourage Title VII Coordinators, parent committees, and families to advocate for Indian Education.
- The Utah State Legislature shall appropriate funds to maintain a budget that includes (but is not limited to) programs and the staffing of the Utah American Indian/Alaska Native Education State Plan Advisory Committee.

Strategy III: **The Utah State Office of Education, in collaboration with the American Indian/Alaska Native Education State Plan Advisory Committee, shall develop, implement and maintain American Indian/Alaska Native culturally relevant materials.**

Objective: Infuse American Indian/Alaska Native culturally relevant materials into and across the state Core Curriculum and electives where appropriate.

Action Steps:

- The Utah State Office of Education shall establish a position on the curriculum development committee for an American Indian/Alaska Native educator.
- Maintain the current American Indian/Alaska Native Education State Plan Advisory Committee.
- The Utah State Legislature shall allocate additional funding for the development of the American Indian/Alaska Native culturally relevant materials and learning activities.
- The Utah American Indian/Alaska Native Education State Plan Advisory Committee shall develop and approve all culturally relevant materials.
- The Utah State Office of Education shall align the new American Indian/Alaska Native learning activities with state core standards and hold school districts accountable for implementation.
- The Utah American Indian/Alaska Native Education State Plan Advisory Committee will identify and define performance measurements of established American Indian/Alaska Native learning activities.

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- The Utah State Office of Education shall establish progress indicators for the development, implementation and monitoring of the American Indian/Alaska Native culturally relevant materials.
- The Utah State Office of Education shall require, for Utah teacher licensure, courses in multicultural education and American Indian/Alaska Native history and sovereignty.
- LEAs shall infuse new American Indian/Alaska Native culturally relevant materials and learning activities across Core Curriculum by school year 2004-2005.